

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A natural biodegradable felt suitable for growing seeds, seedlings, or plants comprising a mass of predominantly unscored animal wool, ~~hair, or fur~~ wherein the natural biodegradable felt includes at least a portion of animal faeces derived from the unscored animal wool.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The natural biodegradable felt as claimed in claim 1, suitable for growing seeds, seedlings or plants, or for ~~the~~ transporting fruit, shellfish, fish, vegetables and plants, constructed at least in part from a felt of needlepunched unscored animal wool.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The natural biodegradable felt as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein, ~~the substrate includes seeds~~ are lodged in the felt.

4. (CANCELLED).

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The natural biodegradable felt as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1, having a density from 0.01 to 0.3 g/c.c. and a thickness from 2mm to 60mm.

6. (WITHDRAWN) A method of manufacturing a natural biodegradable felt suitable for growing seeds, seedlings of plants, the method including producing a batt formed at least in part from unscoured animal wool, needlepunching the batt to form a felt and forming the felt into a required shape or length.

7. (WITHDRAWN) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the method includes introducing seeds into the felt.

8. (WITHDRAWN) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the method includes using a portion of dag wool in each batt.

9. (WITHDRAWN) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the method includes forming a batt using at least 80% of woolen fibres shorter than 20mm in length.